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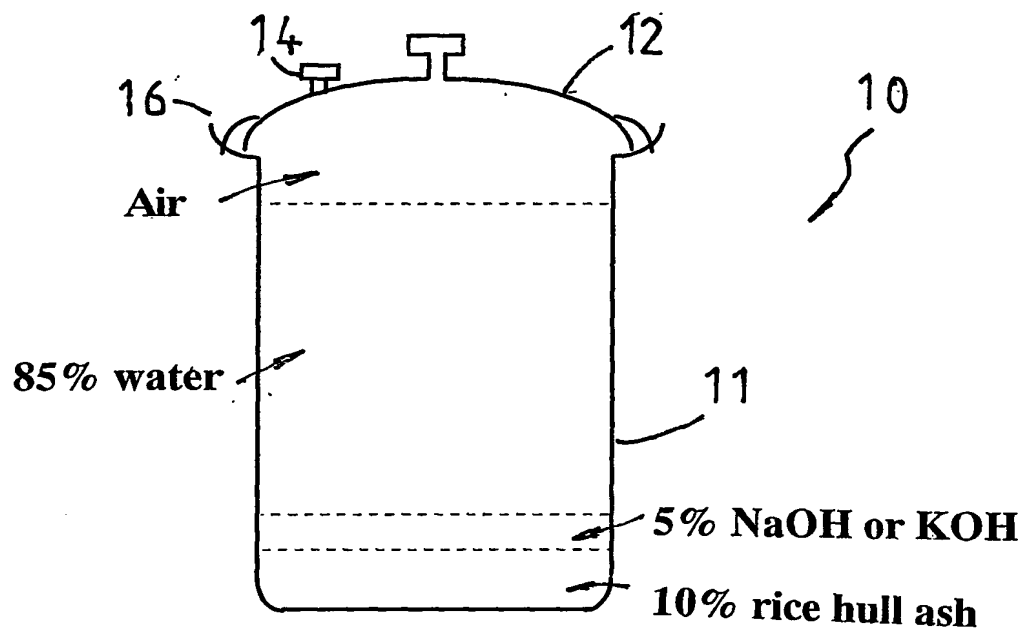


Fig. 1

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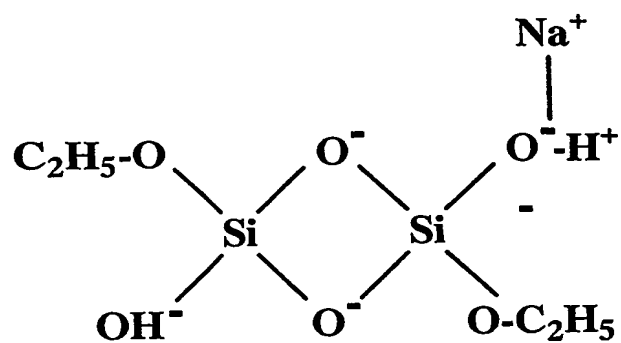


Fig. 2

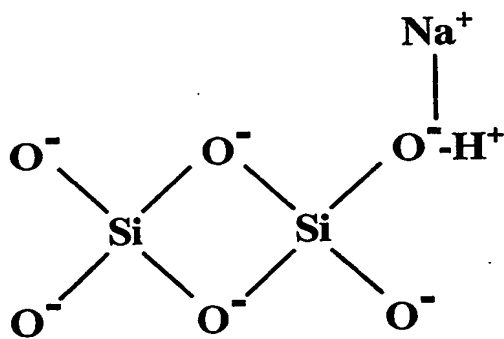
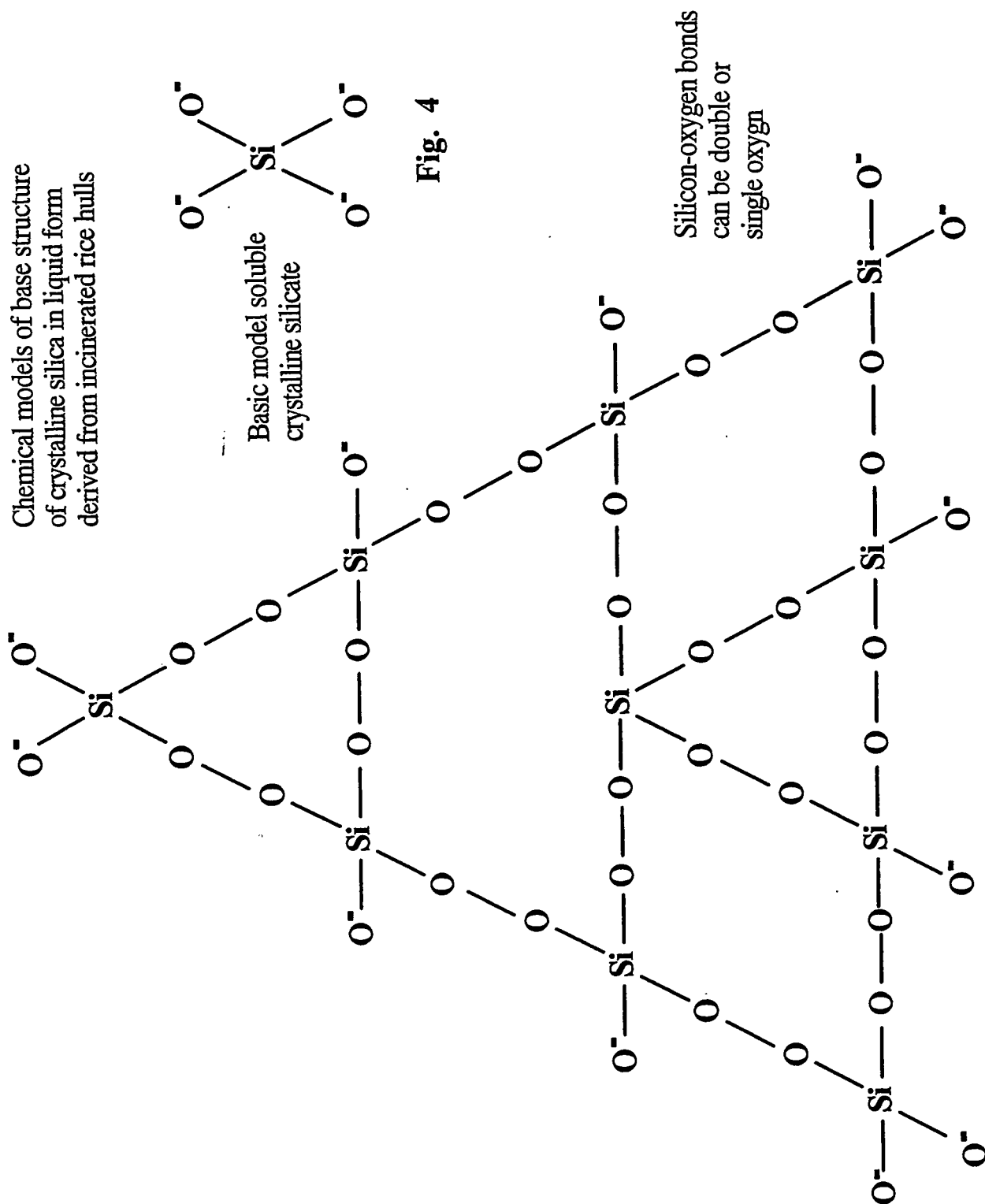


Fig. 3



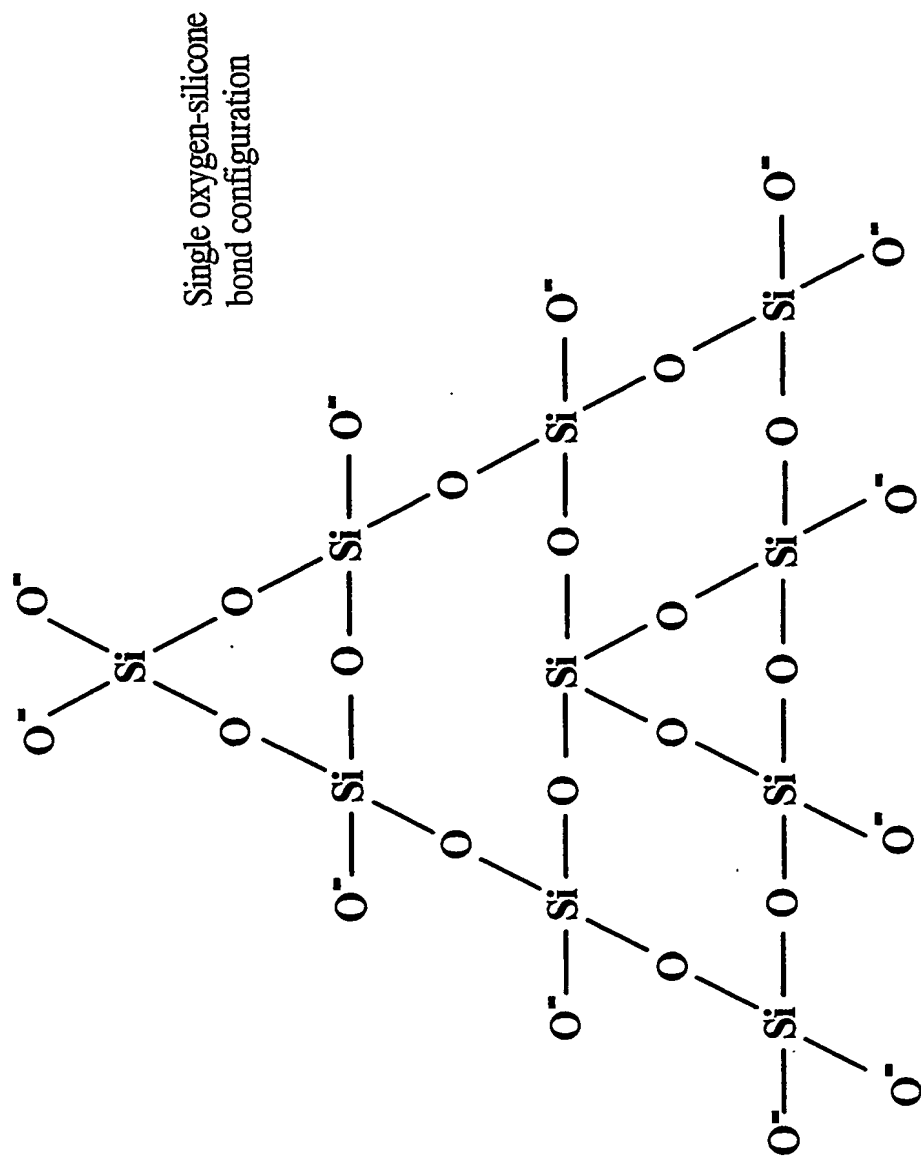
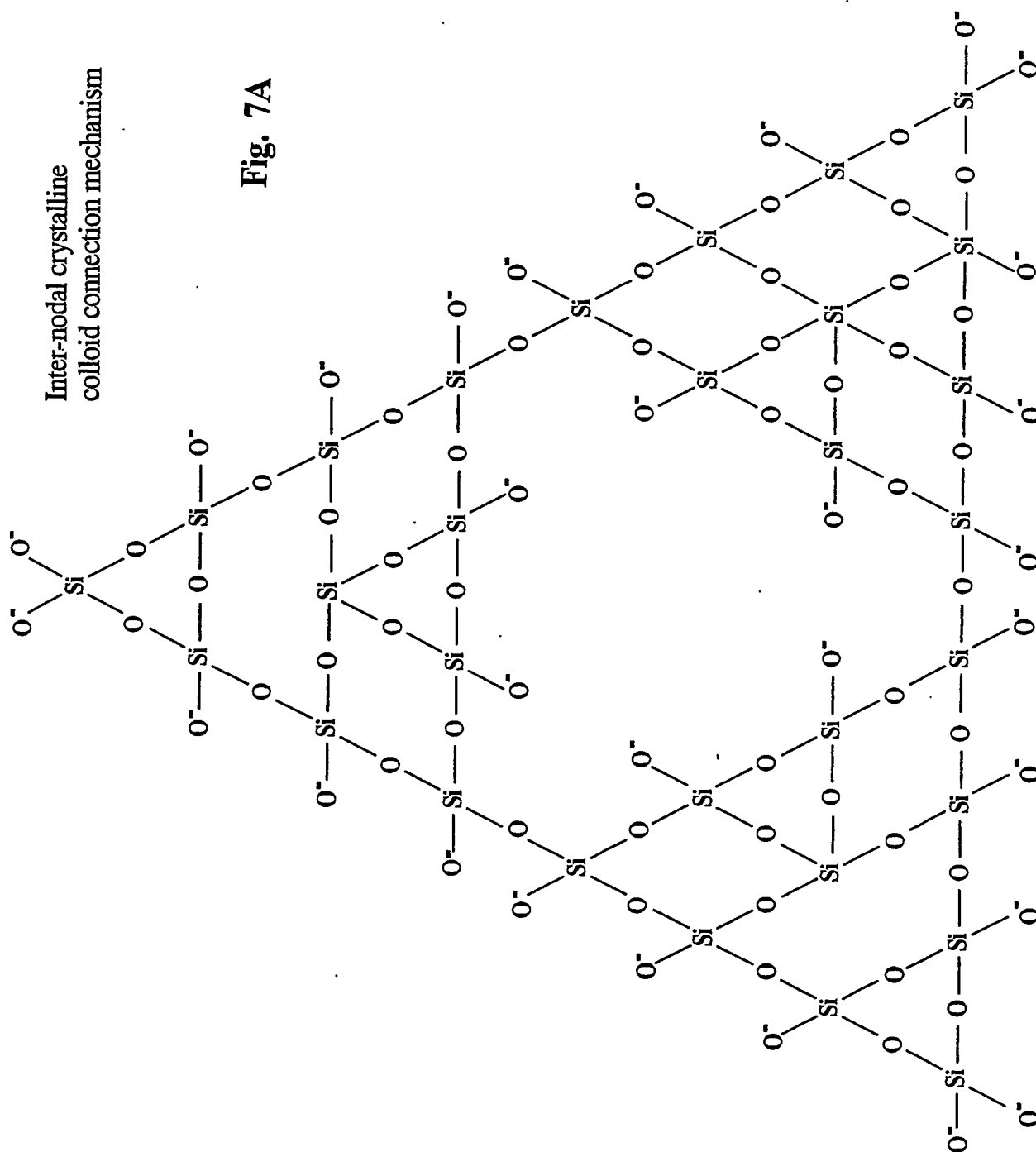
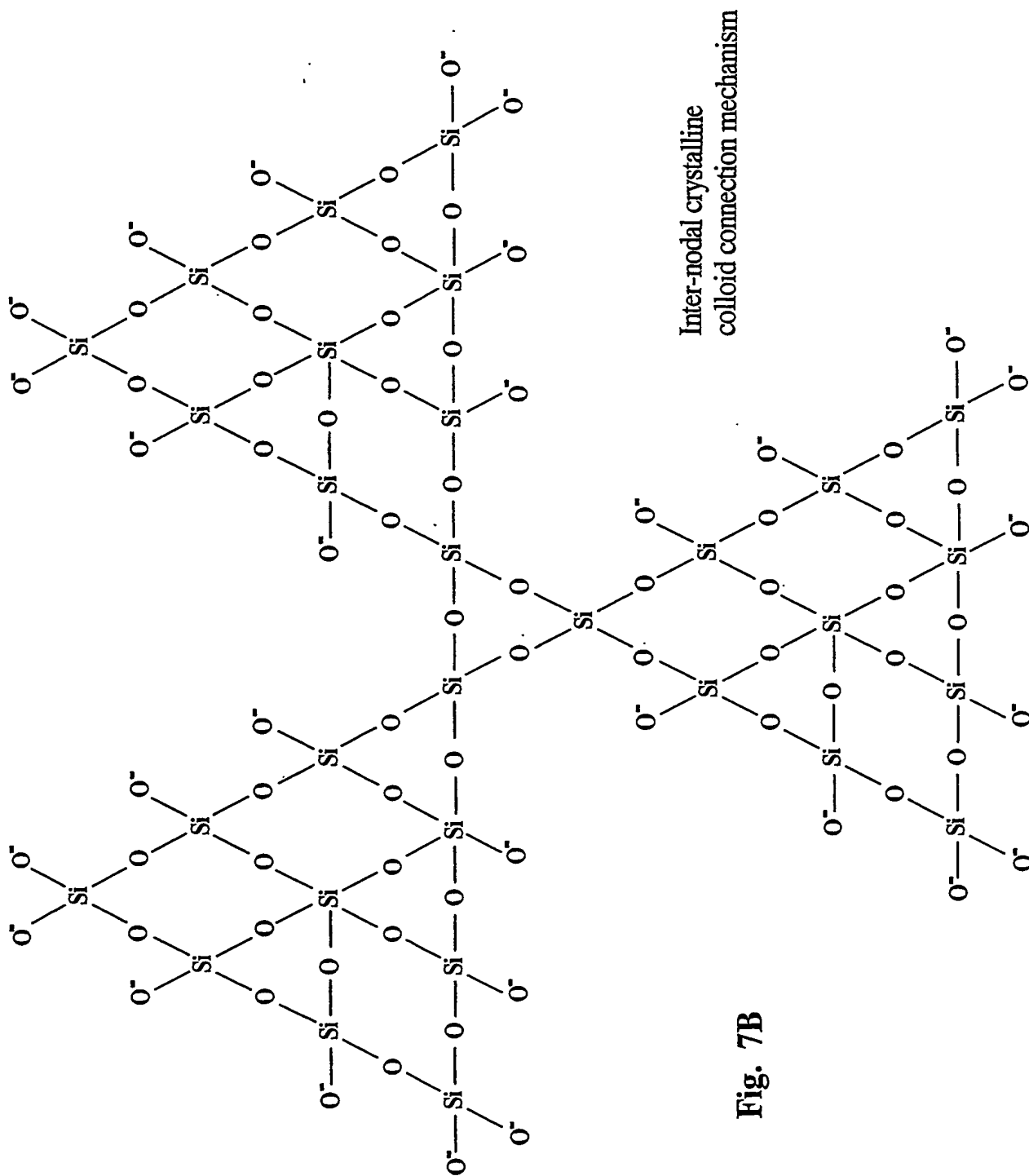


Fig. 6



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An expanded view
of aqueous silica
colloid matrix

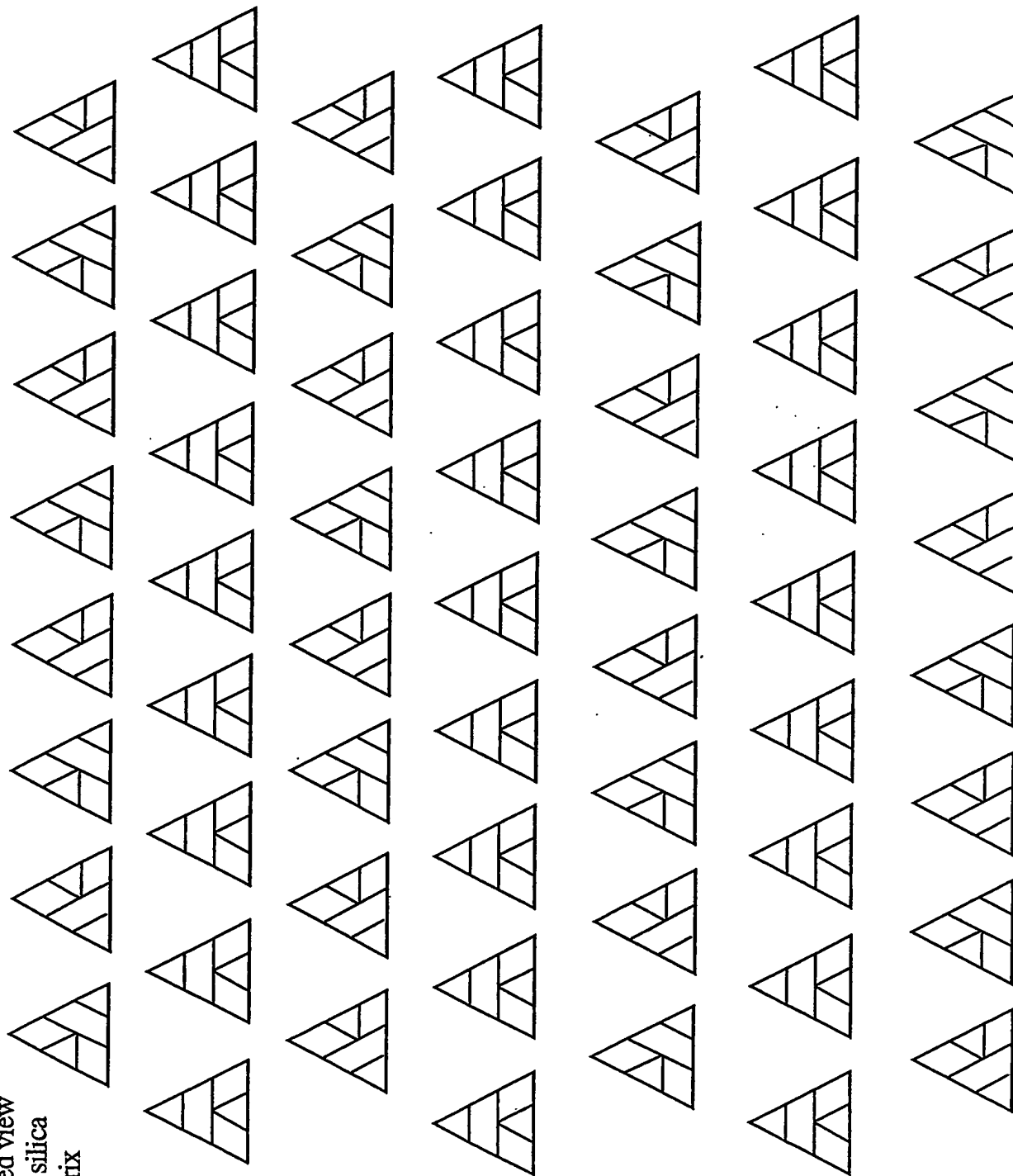
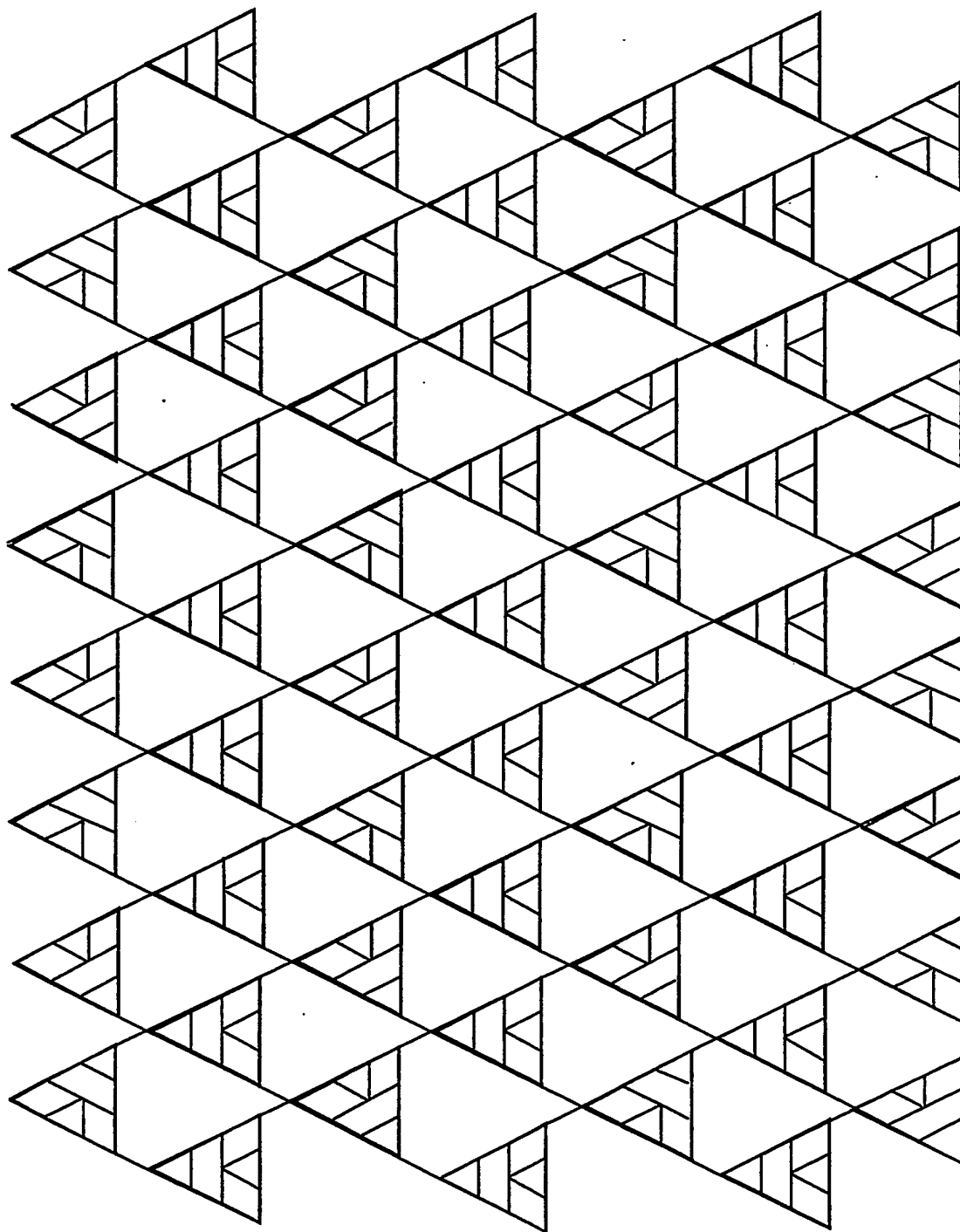


Fig. 8

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An expanded view of aqueous silica colloid matrix showing inter-colloid connection points

Fig. 9

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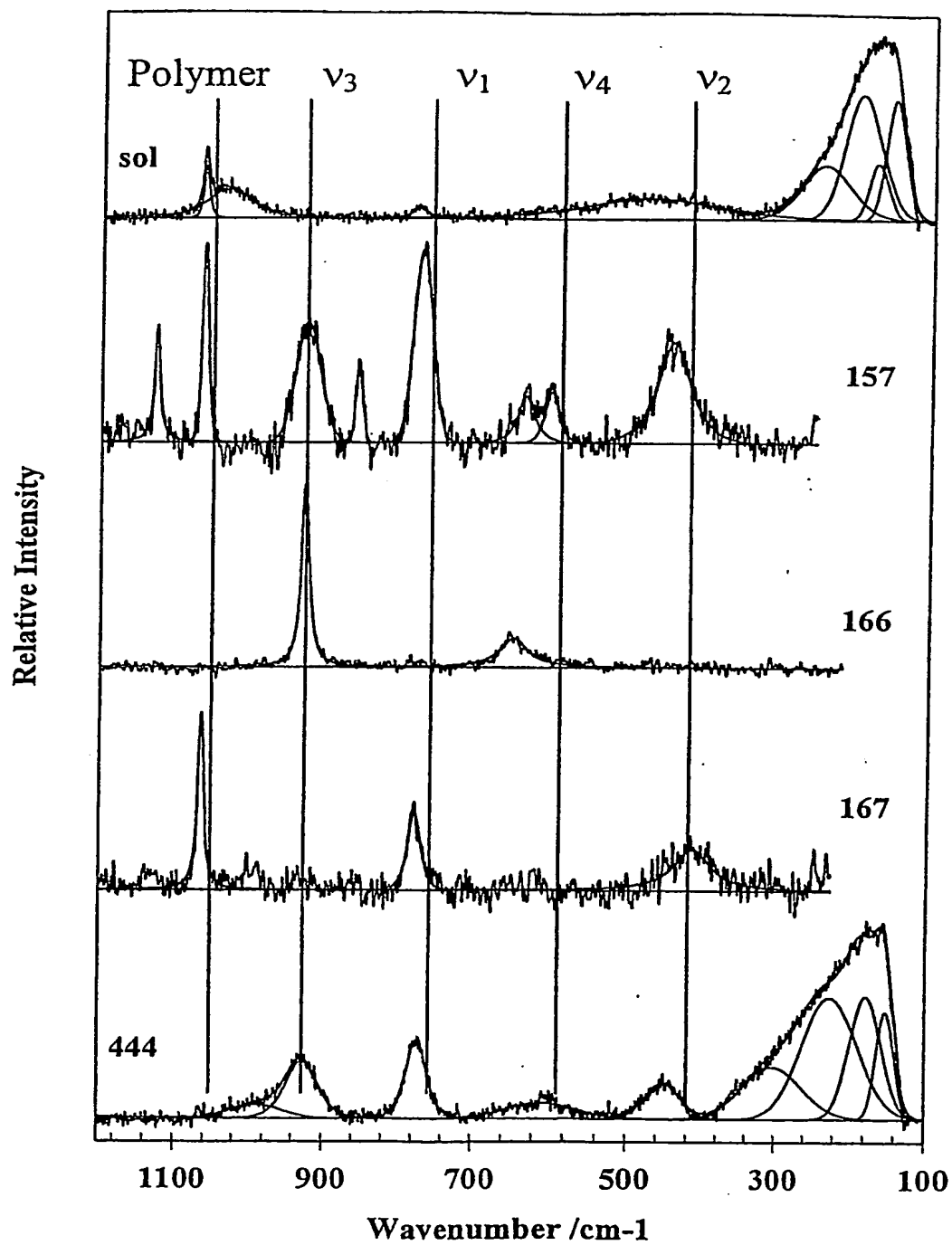


Fig. 10

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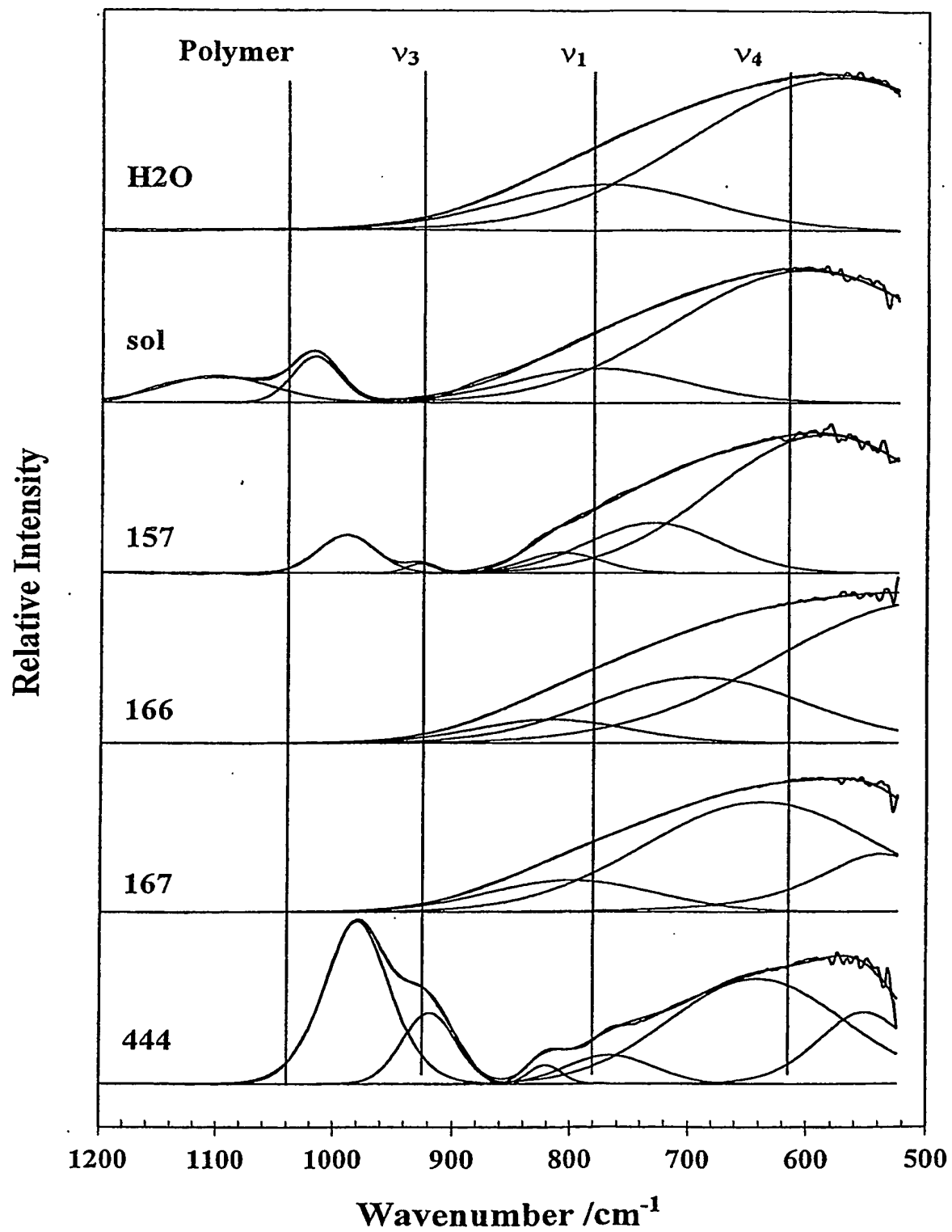


Fig. 11

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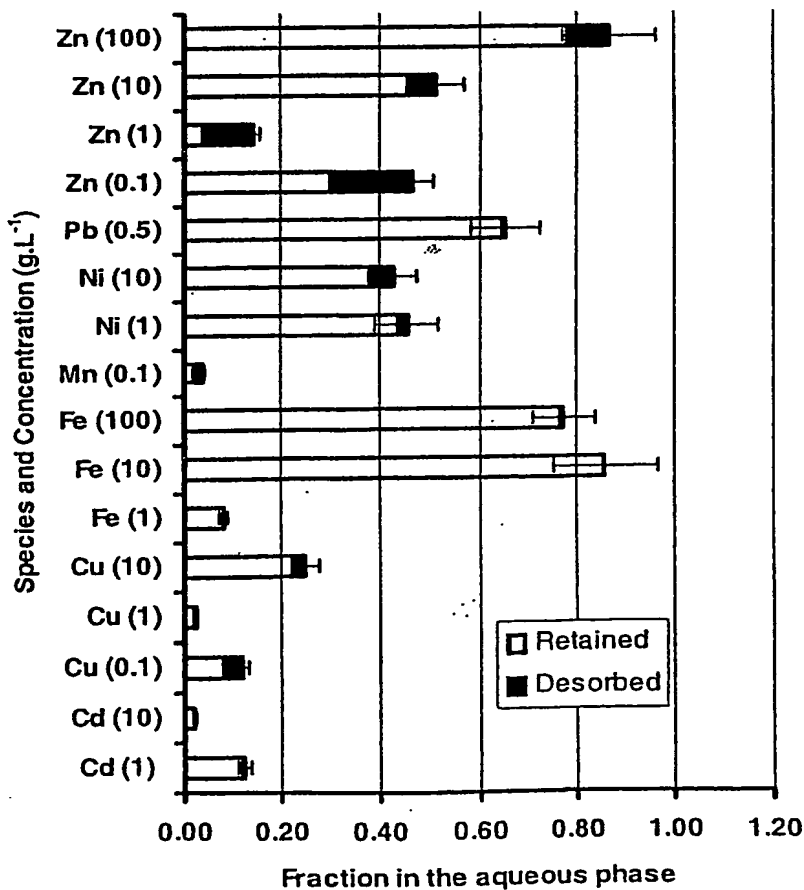
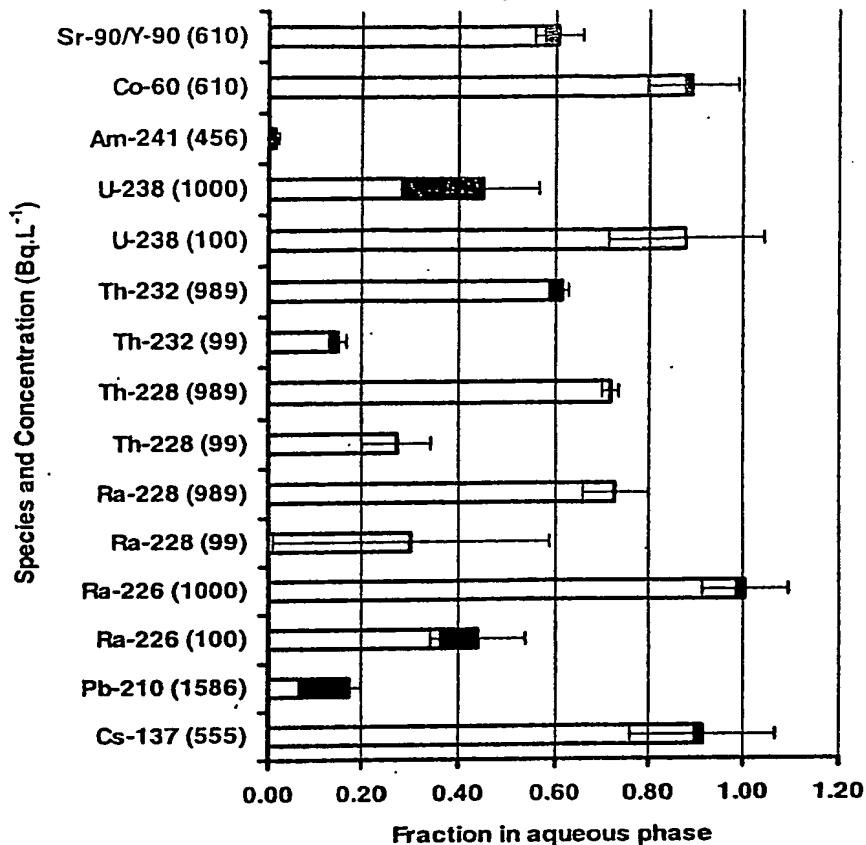


Fig. 12

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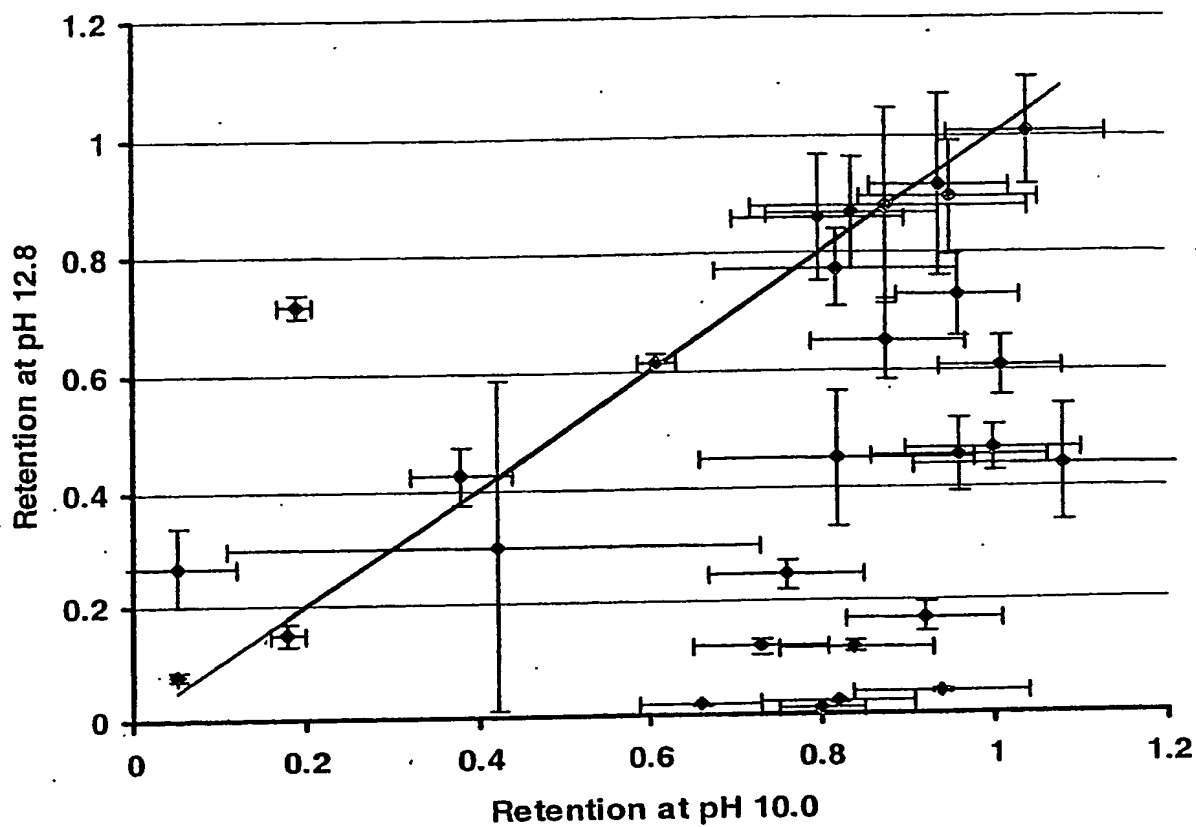


Fig. 13

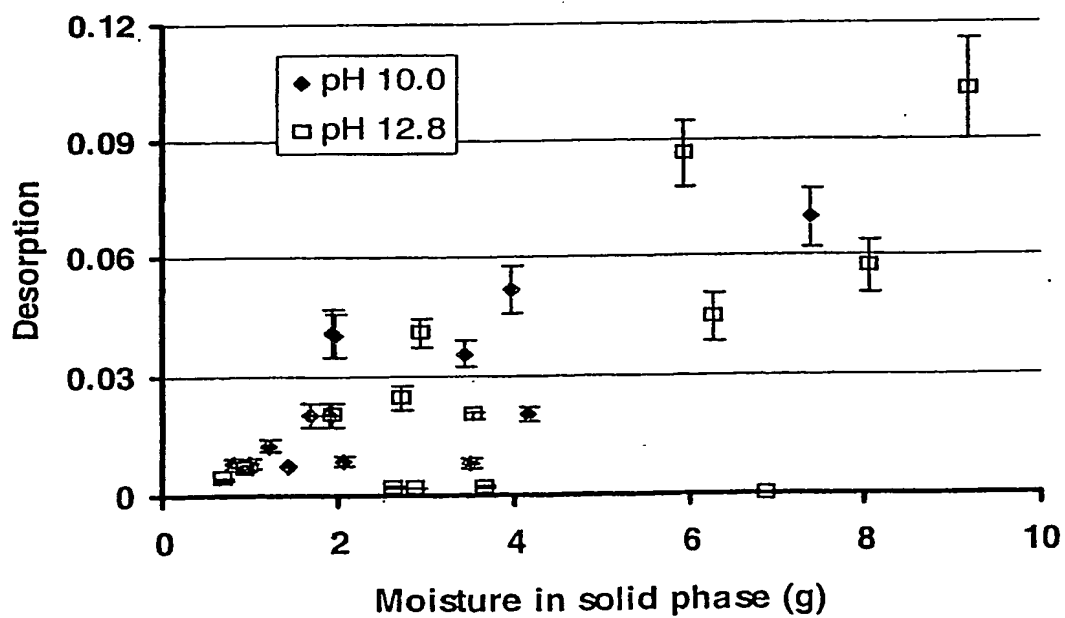


Fig. 14

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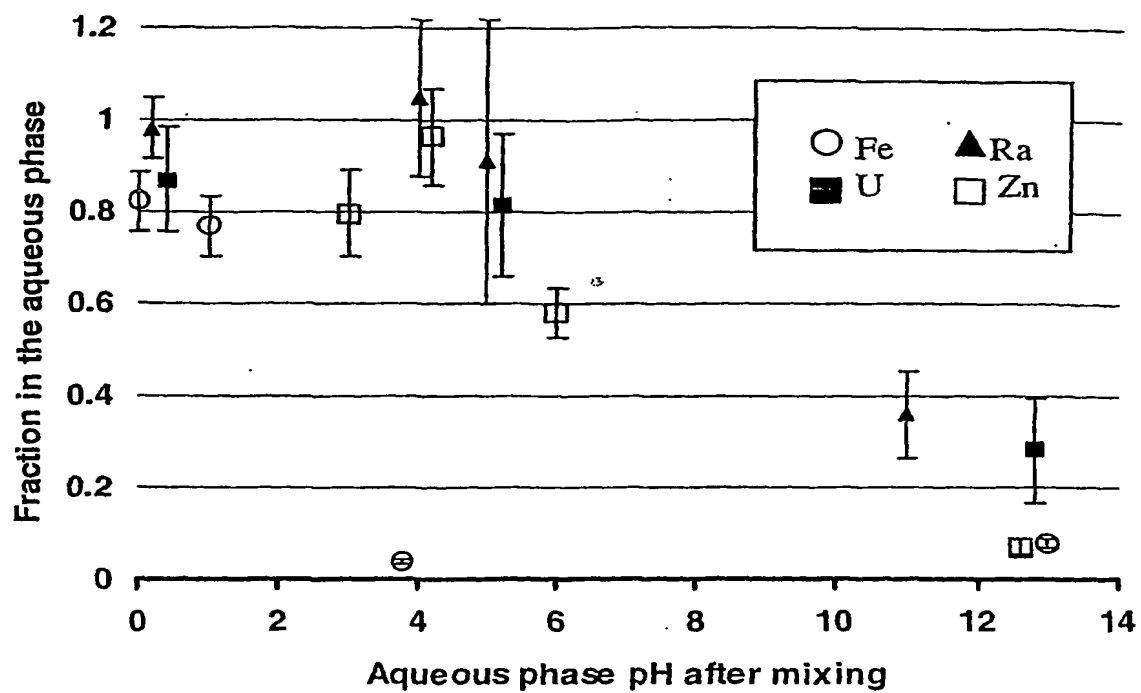


Fig. 15